

**COMMITTEE ON RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE
OF THE
JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES**

August 15, 2002

TO THE BENCH, BAR, AND PUBLIC:

Proposed Rules and Official Forms Amendments

The Judicial Conference Advisory Committees on the Bankruptcy and Criminal Rules, and the Rules of Evidence have proposed amendments to federal rules and forms accompanying the rules governing 28 U.S.C. § 2254 and § 2255 proceedings and requested that the proposals be circulated to the bench, bar, and public for comment. The proposed amendments are posted on the Internet at <http://www.uscourts.gov/rules>.

Opportunity for Public Comment

Please provide any comments and suggestions on the proposed amendments whether favorable, adverse, or otherwise as soon as possible. **The comment deadline is February 15, 2003.** Please send all correspondence to: Secretary of the Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, Washington, D.C. 20544. Comments may also be sent electronically via the Internet to <http://www.uscourts.gov/rules>.

The Advisory Committees will hold public hearings on the proposed amendments to the rules and forms on the following dates:

January 24, 2003	Washington, D.C.	Bankruptcy Rules
January 27, 2003	Washington, D.C.	Evidence Rules
January 31, 2003	Atlanta, Georgia	Criminal Rules (including § 2254 and § 2255 Rules)

If you wish to testify you must contact the Committee Secretary at the above address **at least 30 days before the hearing**. The Advisory Committees will review all timely comments. All comments are made part of the official record and are available to the public.

After the public comment period, the Advisory Committees will decide whether to submit the proposed amendments to the Standing Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure. At present, the Standing Committee has not approved these proposed amendments, except to authorize their publication for comment. The proposed amendments have not been submitted to nor considered by the Judicial Conference or the Supreme Court.

Anthony J. Scirica
Chair

Peter G. McCabe
Secretary